# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF ALABAMA EASTERN DIVISION

DONALD FREEMAN,	)
Plaintiff,	)
	) Civil Action
vs.	) File No. 3:08 cv 104
TERRY RAY MITCHELL, et al.,	)
Defendants.	) )

## **PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO REMAND**

COMES NOW Plaintiff, Donald Freeman, and moves this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1447(c) to remand this case to Russell County Circuit Court, the Court from which it was improperly removed. In support thereof, Plaintiff requests and shows this Court as follows:

1.

On January 17, 2008, Plaintiff filed this civil action against Defendants Terry Ray Mitchell and Janice Mitchell, d/b/a Mitchell Enterprise, who were both Georgia residents on that date. The case was filed in the Circuit Court of Russell County, State of Alabama, Civil Action File No. CV-08-024.

2.

On February 11, 2008, Defendants filed their Notice of Removal pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332 and 28 U.S.C. § 1441. Prior to filing their Notice of Removal, Defendants were informed Plaintiff was a resident of Georgia.

3.

On January 17, 2008, the date of the filing of this action in the Circuit Court of Russell County, Alabama, Plaintiff shows he was a resident of the State of Georgia, and had been since September 2007. (See Affidavit of Donald Freeman, attached hereto as Exhibit "A").

4.

On said date of filing, Defendant Terry Mitchell was a resident of Georgia, and Defendant Janice Mitchell, d/b/a Mitchell Enterprise, was also an individual and/or a Georgia corporation with her principal residence and place of business in Georgia. (See Paragraph 1 of Defendant Terry Ray Mitchell's Answer to Complaint, Pacer doc 3, and Paragraph 2 of Defendant Janice Mitchell, d/b/a Mitchell Enterprise's Answer to Complaint, Pacer doc 2). Therefore, as of the date this action was filed, both Defendants and Plaintiff resided in Georgia, thus destroying diversity of citizenship in this case.

5.

Plaintiff respectfully moves this Court to remand this case back to Russell County Circuit Court, and requests payment of costs pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1447(c).

6.

Plaintiff's Motion is supported by his Affidavit, Memorandum of Law, the pleadings filed of record, and the exhibits attached thereto.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court to grant his Motion to Remand with all costs taxed against the Defendant.

This S<sup>\*</sup> day of March, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Stephen J. Hodges
PHILIPS BRANCH
Alabama Bar No. ASB-5871-T36H
Attorney for Plaintiff

1415 Wynnton Road P. O. Box 2808 Columbus, GA 31906 (706) 323-6461

/s/ J. Benjamin Burns
J. BENJAMIN BURNS, P.C.
Georgia Bar No. 096525
Attorney for Plaintiff

818 Broadway P. O. Box 1573 Columbus, GA 31902 (706) 322-3414

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

This is to certify that I have this date served the foregoing Plaintiff's Motion to Remand by electronic filing and/or by depositing a copy in the United States Mail, with adequate postage affixed, and addressed as follows:

K. Donald Simms, Esq.
James M. Strong, Esq.
Whitaker, Mudd, Simms, Luke & Wells, LLC
2001 Park Place North
Suite 400
Birmingham, Alabama 35203
ksimms@wmslawfirm.com
jstrong@wmslawfirm.com

This <u>\$\sqrt{s}\$</u> day of March, 2008.

/s/ Stephen J. Hodges
PHILIPS BRANCH
Alabama Bar No. ASB-5871-T36H
Attorney for Plaintiff

1415 Wynnton Road P. O. Box 2808 Columbus, GA 31906 (706) 323-6461 STATE OF GEORGIA

COUNTY OF MUSCOGEE

# **AFFIDAVIT OF DONALD FREEMAN**

Personally appeared before the undersigned officer, duly authorized by law to administer oaths, Donald Freeman, who after being duly sworn deposes and states that he has personal knowledge of the following facts and they are true and correct:

1.

My name is Donald Freeman. I am of legal age, suffer from no legal disabilities and I am competent to testify regarding the matters set forth herein.

2.

I hereby certify that the statements made in this Affidavit are based on my personal knowledge. I execute this Affidavit freely and voluntarily.

3.

I am a resident of the State of Georgia and have been since August 2007. My initial address was 912 31st Street, Apartment D, Columbus, Georgia 31904. I currently reside at 14151/2 Gordon Court, Apartment A, Columbus, Georgia 31906. My vehicle is registered in the State of Georgia, and has been since September 20, 2007. I currently hold a valid Georgia Drivers License, and have done so since September 14, 2007. A copy of each document is attached hereto as Exhibit A-1 and Exhibit A-2 respectively.



4.

My lawsuit against Defendants Terry Mitchell and Janice Mitchell, d/b/a Mitchell Enterprise was filed in the Circuit Court of Russell County on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2008. I was a resident of the State of Georgia on that date.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

Donald Freeman

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this the 5<sup>th</sup> day of MArch, 2008.

Motary Public, Muscogee County, GA.

My Commission Expires:



# MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION STATE OF GEORGIA

2FTRX17W14CA92883 - 2004 FORD F-150

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Tag Number:

105054

Valuation

\$4200

174802072639004

Mill Rate:

Tag Fee: Expires:

Fuel: Equip. No: Q

20.00 05/06/2008

Color: BLU

Insurance Status: VALID INSURANCE COVERAGE Customer 2 No:

Customer 1 No: 000054876432

Farm Vehicle?

Z

County: 004 Title Number:

District: 01

Classification:

PASSENGER CAR/EIGHT TRUCKS

DONALD E FREEMAN 912 31ST STAPT D COLUMBUS GA 31904-7791

Signature: Donald Et roman

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT



# **GEORGIA MOTOR VEHICLE DIVISION** TITLE AND TAG HISTORY

Page 3 OF 3

02/21/08 15:03:44 \$004VLV

TITLE NBR: 776600072752004 STATUS: CURRENT TITLE, NOT HELD

Nbr of Owners: 1 1st. OWNER: DONALD E FREEMAN

912 31ST ST APT D COLUMBUS GA 31904-7791

AVP0764 2004 AA - PASSENGER CAR/LIGHT TRUCKS Iss: 09/20/2007 Exp: 05/06/2008 Status: 09/20/2007 ACTIVE Microfilm Nbr:

TITLE NBR: 174802072639004 STATUS: CONTROL NUMBER CANCELLED

Purchase Date: 10/02/2007 Print Date: 09/20/2007 Lease: NO Title Microfilm Nbr:

Nbr of Owners: 1 1st. OWNER: DONALD E FREEMAN

912 31ST ST APT D COLUMBUS GA 31904-7791

AVP0764 2004 AA - PASSENGER CAR/LIGHT TRUCKS 195: 09/20/2007 Exp/

05/06/2008 Status: 09/20/2007 ACTIVE

Microfilm Nbr:

TITLE NBR: 774341041848004 STATUS: CANCELLED TO ANOTHER STATE - AL

Nbr of Owners: 1 1st. OWNER: EDWARD JOHN KELLER

1215 VESPER DR COLUMBUS GA 31904-1550

BQ630M 2004 BW - BOBWHITE QUAIL Iss: 11/15/2005 Exp: 11/16/2006 Status: 04/10/2006 TRANSFERRED

Microfilm Nbr:

BQ630M 2004 BW - BOBWHITE QUAIL ISS: 10/28/2004 Exp: 11/16/2005 Status: 11/15/2005 RENEWED

Microfilm Nbr:

EH92F BW - BOBWHITE QUAIL ISS: 11/05/2003 Exp: 11/16/2004 Status: 10/28/2004 RENEWED

Microfilm Nbr:



PLAINTIFF'S **EXHIBIT**